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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

## INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

25X1A

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR.

14 Jan. 1952

SUBJECT Czechoslovak Government Information

NO. OF PAGES

1

PLACE  
ACQUIRED

25X1A

Document No. 0/0

Change in Class. ☐

Declassified

Changed To: TS S C

HR 70-2

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

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DATE OF  
INFO.

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1. The Czechoslovak Ministry of Foreign Affairs is being purged of officials who are close to or were recommended by Rudolf Slansky. This purge presents a problem since the Czechs believe that most of their ambassadors in the West are basically anti-Communist and that their sudden recall would cause embarrassing defections.

F-6 2. As of 1 January 1952 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will replace the Ministry of National Security for the issuance of Czech passports.

3. Representatives of the "Molotov Plan" countries will meet from 3 to 10 April 1952 either in Prague or Moscow.\*

4. The election of national shop stewards held in November 1951 was a disappointment to the Czechoslovak Communist leaders since the candidate list was rejected. Prime Minister Antonin Zapotocky called the results nonsense and rebuked the trade union groups in charge of the election. This is one of the few cases of a secret ballot election in Czechoslovakia. In it workers were to vote "yes" or "no" for the whole slate of new candidates chosen by the retiring shop stewards. If the slate should win less than the required majority, a new election must be held with a new list of candidates.\*\*

F-4 5. The Czechoslovak Government will reduce prices of all consumer goods with the exception of foodstuffs on 1 January 1952.\*\*\*

25X1A \* [REDACTED] a meeting of the International Economic Conference attended by representatives of the satellite states is to be held in Moscow from 3 to 10 April 1952.

25X1X \*\* [REDACTED] It is believed that a majority of 75 percent is required for election. The open ballot system is expected to replace the secret ballot.

25X1A \*\*\* [REDACTED] There has been no indication of any lowering of the prices of consumer goods, which would be overt information if it did occur. Such a reduction does not seem to fit present Czech policy.

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